

OTM PORTFOLIO FOR THE CONGREGATION

BASIC INFORMATION (Both Congregations)

Congregation names: Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church, Morris, Illinois
Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA), Morris, Illinois

Position title: Full-time rector/pastor

Receiving names until (initial post for 60 days): December 31, 2025

Weekly average Sunday attendance: St. Thomas': 20; Peace Lutheran: 40

Number of weekend worship services: St. Thomas': 1; Peace Lutheran: 1

Number of weekday worship services: St. Thomas': 1; Peace Lutheran: 0

Number (per month) of other worship services: St. Thomas': 0; Peace Lutheran: 0

Institution phone: St. Thomas': (815) 942-1380, email: stthomasmorris@gmail.com
Peace Lutheran: (815) 942-1010, email: peacelc@plcmorris.org

Institution address: St. Thomas': 317 Goold Park Drive, Morris, IL 60450
Peace Lutheran: 101 Candlelight Ln., Morris, IL 60450

Contact Name: Rev. Andrea Mysen, Canon to the Ordinary, Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

Contact email: amysen@episcopalchicago.org

Contact phone: 312-751-4203

Contact Name: Rev. Jen Beamsley, Steward for Mobility and Congregations in Transition, Northern Illinois Synod, ELCA

Contact email: jbeamsley@nisynod.org

Contact phone: 309-794-4004

**The remainder of this document refers only to
Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church.
Use the Peace Lutheran link for its posting.**

COMPENSATION, HOUSING, & BENEFITS

Cash compensation: Will jointly negotiate salary from the \$76,475 minimum of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago or the ELCA guidelines, depending on the candidate's affiliation.

Is SECA included in the above figure? Yes, accountant will calculate.

If rectory is being provided: (On-site, partly-furnished rectory is provided)

Housing available for how many people? 2 adults

What is the current annual fair market rental value: \$15,000, per local realtor

Estimated annual utilities expense? \$0 (provided by parish)

Are you providing a housing equity allowance? No

Are you in compliance with pension? Yes

Healthcare (health and dental) being provided (MUST provide full family for ¾ or full time positions):

Negotiable: Yes

Vacation weeks:

1 month including 5 Sundays: (diocesan minimum) Yes

Continuing Education:

Weeks offered:

2 weeks (diocesan minimum): Yes

Continuing Ed funding in budget: \$1,000 (diocesan minimum): Yes

Sabbatical provision: (required by diocesan policy): Yes

Travel/auto account: (required to reimburse work related travel) Yes

Other professional account: No

WORK HISTORY & SKILLS

filling this position, including interim rector

list information about those previously

Name: Michael W. Dwyer

Position Title: Part-time Rector; Became priest-in-Charge at age 72

Date Begun (month / Year): November 2018

Date Ended (month / Year): December 2024

Name: James L. Steele

Position Title: Rector

Date Begun month / Year): July 1971

Date Ended month / Year): November 2016

Name: David Zimmerman

Position Title: Rector

Date Begun month / Year): 1962

Date Ended month / Year): 1970

CHURCH SCHOOL:

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School: 0

Number of Students for Children School: 0

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School: 0

Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School: 0

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School: 0

Number of Students for Adults School: 0

DAY SCHOOL: None

NARRATIVE

In our baptism we promise to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ, seeking and serving Christ in all persons. You are invited here to reflect on your ministry by responding to the following questions. You may answer in more than one language, if appropriate.

NOTES:

- ***There is a 1200 character limit including spaces (about 200 words) for each question***

- **Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.**

Since the 1980s, the parish has had an annual sponsorship of a needy family at Christmas, under the auspices of We Care of Grundy County, a local charity.

- **Describe your liturgical style & practice. If your community provides more than one type of worship service, please describe all.**

We have had a traditional Episcopal liturgy, with the use of diverse texts from other members of the world-wide Anglican Communion, with organ and hymns. The Eucharist on High Holy Days has included the use of incense and chimes.

- **How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?**

We invite volunteers to serve as lectors, greeters, Eucharistic ministers and altar guild servers.

- **As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?**

We pay close attention to the well-being of each other. Fellowship leads to friendship, which leads to family. ECW meetings always include the sharing of our cares. We participate in book and Bible study groups.

- **Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.**

Our outgoing Priest-in-Charge served two parishes, as a result of which parishioners participated in events at each other's parishes. We also participated in the city-wide Walk of the Cross on Good Friday (Morris) and community Thanksgiving service (Ottawa).

- **How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?**

Visits to shut-ins, support of women's help center in Morris, and outreach to five local charities.

- **Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?**

N/A

- **How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?**

Some have registered for lay ministry, including preaching.

- **What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?**

Our outreach contributions are the top priority in our budget: Habitat for Humanity, We Care of Grundy County, PADS, Will-Grundy Medical Clinic, and ERD.

- **What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?**

In April 2014, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we identified sources of conflict and held a successful healing session with help from a Diocesan facilitator.

- **What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?**

1. We learned to focus on our similarities and not our differences, including the avoidance of political discourse.

2. The use of ZOOM.com for services and Bible study has been valuable and has outlasted the pandemic that brought about the need for and use of ZOOM.

- **Please provide FOUR WORDS describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.**

Spirit-filled

Compassionate

Literate

Traditional

CONNECTIONS

Your worshipping community's website: <www.stthomasmorris.org>

You may provide the media links to your worshipping community: *These may be audio, video, YouTube, Facebook, etc. Include the exact web addresses for linked media.*

Facebook.com/StThomasMorrisIL

You may provide links here to other sites where you might be found: *Include the exact web addresses.*

episcopalchicago.com

episcopalchurch.org

Languages significantly represented in your worshipping community (spoken on a Sunday morning):

English

Approximate number of people speaking other languages: *This refers to daily use of languages other than English*

Zero

Do you provide worship or classes in other languages: No

REFERENCES

Bishop Name: The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark

**Bishop Contact Information: e-mail: bishop@episcopalchicago.org
phone: 312-751-4200**

Diocesan Transition Minister Name: The Rev. Canon Andrea Mysen, Canon to the Ordinary

**Diocesan Transition Minister Contact Information: e-mail --
amysen@episcopalchicago.org phone: 312-751-4203**

Current Warden/Board Chair Name: Robert S. Carlson, Senior Warden

**Current Warden/Board Chair Contact Information: e-mail --
bkcarlson84@gmail.com**

Previous Warden/Board Chair Name: Judy Adams

**Previous Warden/Board Chair Contact Information: e-mail --
judy.bush.adams22@gmail.com**

Search Chair Name: Robert S. Carlson, Senior Warden

Search Chair's Ministry: Vestry member, lay reader, provider of recorded hymns when organist is absent

**Search Chair's Contact Information: e-mail --
bkcarlson84@gmail.com**

Parish/Institution Leader Name: Lewis Huntley, Parish Treasurer

Parish/Institution Leader's Ministry: Treasurer, Vestry, Lay Eucharistic Minister, Acolyte

Parish/Institution Leader's Contact Information: lewhuntley@hotmail.com

Local Community Leader Name: Rev. Dr. Roy Backus, Retired Pastor,

First Presbyterian Church, Morris, IL

Local Community Leader's Relationship: Former Fellow Member of Morris Ministerial Association

Local Community Leader's Contact Information: revdrbackus@aol.com